

Even more troubling is how this administration missed early opportunities to deal with the challenge of Iran. For example, shortly after the toppling of Saddam Hussein, moderates in the Iranian Government faxed an offer to the State Department—a “grand bargain,” they called it. It arrived at a time when moderates were still in power in Iran and it reportedly had the approval of the Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khomeini.

The grand bargain offered to put all issues on the table with the United States—Iran’s support for terrorist groups in the region, its nuclear program, among other things. Tragically, this administration ignored it, as it ignored so many diplomatic opportunities prior to the invasion of Iraq. Hell-bent on use of our great military, it ignored a diplomatic opportunity that could have been historic. The Iranian moderates were discredited, replaced by hard-line elements who today are pursuing more reckless policies in the region.

A war with Iran could have devastating consequences. It could further inflame an already intense Middle East, further radicalize terrorist organizations, lead to more death and disability, and severely disrupt trade and oil shipments in the Middle East. It could entangle our beleaguered military in yet another complex, long-term conflict.

Richard Armitage, President Bush’s former Deputy Secretary of State, warned us. He said:

It would be the worst of worlds for an outgoing administration to start a conflict.

How right he was. Accordingly, any such decision must be taken seriously and with deliberation.

Last week, I introduced a resolution affirming in very plain, concise language the constitutional requirement that this President, any President, must seek congressional approval before initiating an offensive military action, such as one in Iran. Perhaps that time may inevitably arrive—I hope not—but if it does, this President cannot stand alone or act alone. The Constitution requires that he come to this Senate and the House of Representatives in the Capitol to make his case to the American people.

I recall his press conference of 2 weeks ago. The President brought up an image which was hard to comprehend—the image of a third world war, a third world war if we didn’t take action against Iran. I know Iran is a threat in the region, I know they sponsor terrorism, I know a nuclear Iran is not a stabilizing force but a destabilizing force, and yet for this President to walk away from economic sanctions, diplomatic alternatives, and to suggest that the military is the only way to prove our resolve is to once again remind us that 5 years ago this same President came to us and asked for the invasion of Iraq.

I remember Vice President CHENEY telling us our soldiers would be greeted

with flowers and parades and a triumphant welcome. That lasted for such a short period of time. And now, 3,900 American soldiers, 3,900 American lives later, tens of thousands who have been injured and disabled, we find ourselves embroiled in a conflict with no end in sight.

This President is looking to the exit on January 20, 2009. This Congress has to stand with one voice, Democrats and Republicans, and remind this President that as he heads for the exit he shouldn’t head America into a new war. We are not prepared for this. We don’t need this. And the President needs to understand what we do need is a chief executive who will follow the Constitution.

#### TRIBUTE TO POLICE CHIEF JOHN KAZLAUSKAS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to John Kazlauskas, who after 41 years of dedicated service, will be retiring as the Owensboro, KY, chief of police this November.

Ever since his start at the Owensboro Police Department in 1966, Chief Kazlauskas has been committed to the progress of the department and to the safety of his community. His dedication and hard work allowed him to quickly progress from a patrol officer to captain, and ultimately to the highest rank within the department, chief of police, in 2002.

Throughout his tenure, Chief Kazlauskas has played a vital role in developing several innovative internal programs that have modernized the department. Chief Kazlauskas helped to create the evidence collection unit and the polygraph unit. Chief Kazlauskas also assisted the department with its accreditation process, which involved implementing 120 standards required by the Kentucky Association of Chiefs of Police.

As chief, Mr. Kazlauskas helped improve the services offered by the local police department by further expanding the bomb squad and emergency teams, ensuring police cruisers had modern mobile data terminals, and overseeing the implementation of an electronic management system, providing a major overhaul to the records department.

Chief Kazlauskas also made a significant impact throughout Owensboro, increasing the community involvement with the department by putting into place the Citizens Advisory Panel, Crime Stoppers, and creating a public information officer position within the department. These steps have built a trusting relationship between the citizens of Owensboro and local law enforcement, making them partners in keeping their neighborhoods safe.

Chief Kazlauskas not only spent his career ensuring the safety of his community, but also contributing to the safety of this Nation. Drafted into the armed services in 1968, Chief

Kazlauskas served as an Army helicopter pilot, chief warrant officer. After a tour of duty in the Republic of South Vietnam, Chief Kazlauskas received a Bronze Star with 23 Air Medal Oak Leaf Clusters for flying over 800 hours of combat time.

Chief Kazlauskas has provided constant support, always placing the well-being of his community above his own. The Commonwealth, as well as the city of Owensboro, has benefited greatly from his outstanding leadership. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join with me in recognizing Police Chief John Kazlauskas’s unwavering dedication to his fellow officers, his community, and Kentucky.

#### TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL GEORGE WARFIELD FLOYD CHAPMAN

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to LTC George Warfield Floyd Chapman, a war hero who sacrificed much to ensure the safety and freedom of his fellow Americans.

Lieutenant Colonel Chapman recently passed away at the age of 92, leaving behind a great legacy of faith, courage, and honor. Born in Lovely, KY, in January 1915, Lieutenant Colonel Chapman graduated from Pike Jr. College in 1937 and from Eastern Kentucky University in 1940.

In 1941, Lieutenant Colonel Chapman was drafted and commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army Infantry Division. In 1943, shortly after marrying his late wife of 64 years, Katherine Carole Coble, he was sent to Europe to fight in World War II.

In 1944, Lieutenant Colonel Chapman was captured by the German Army during the Battle of Anzio, Italy, a tragic conflict that witnessed the staggering loss of many British and American soldiers. He then spent the next year in prisoner of war camps in Germany and Poland, wounded and enduring great hardships and suffering.

Lieutenant Colonel Chapman was awarded the Silver Star and two Purple Hearts for his wartime service, but in no way do these truly reflect all that he gave for his country.

After his return from Europe, Lieutenant Colonel Chapman and his wife Katherine moved to Texas where they raised three sons. Lieutenant Colonel Chapman worked in production for the Continental Oil Company and remained active in the U.S. Army Reserve, retiring as a lieutenant colonel. By the time he retired from the Continental Oil Company in 1962, he had earned a master’s degree from Texas A&I University.

Lieutenant Colonel Chapman was a hard worker who not only dedicated much of his life to his country but also to his family as a devoted husband and exceptional father. He was also a historian, maintaining an excellent knowledge and passion for understanding life, history, and politics.